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TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1912.

CONTRACT LABOR AND SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT

For more than twenty years it has been the policy of our government to exclude from this country all immigrants who have made arrangements to secure work, or who have been promised employment upon their arrival. If an employer in this country wishes to secure a certain number of skilled workmen, he must, under the provisions of the law, advertise extensively, and is then permitted to import men from abroad only when he can prove that his demand for labor cannot be satisfied from the domestic supply.

This law had its origin in the determination to protect American wage-earners against the competition of the alien who might have a lower standard of living, and consequently be willing to work for a smaller wage, or under less favorable conditions, than the native American. The labor organizations of the country have always been vigilant in securing an enforcement of the law and in prosecuting any infractions of it. They have contended that skilled workmen in any trade, without the intervention of the law, might enter the country and compete with them for their positions. In other words, the law has been an attempted protective policy directed against labor in the same way that a protective tariff is put in force against commodities.

American workmen in general and trade-unions in particular have made one very serious mistake in their attitude. In years past they have failed to take into account, and even at the present time do not realize, that the unskilled immigrant has been a potential competitor, and under existing conditions of mining and manufacturing soon becomes an active one.

The alien contract labor law in its operation, while it has decreased the number of skilled immigrants entering the country, has practically had no effect on the unskilled workers. The skilled artisan or industrial worker of Great Britain or Europe will not immigrate to the United States without the assurance of having a place open to him upon his arrival. As a consequence, American manufacturers, being afraid to make any promise on account of the penalties involved, have adopted other measures to insure the operation of their establishments. Partly for this reason, and partly because they cannot compete with the low standards of Southern or Eastern Europeans, the trained and experienced industrial workers and the skilled artisans from Great Britain and Northern Europe have, during the past twenty years, ceased coming to the United States. On the other hand, the farmers or farm laborers from the south and east of Europe, who have little, if any, industrial training or skill, during the past twenty years have entered the United States in constantly increasing numbers, and have found an extensive lodgment in the operating forces of our mines and factories. On account of their lack of training and low standards of living, they have displaced the native American and older immigrant workmen; have disrupted and demoralized labor organizations; have checked wage increases, and have brought about unfavorable working conditions. In other words, the recent immigrant now becomes an active competitor of the American workman before he can be absorbed by a labor organization, or any change effected in his ideas of a proper working standard, working conditions and a proper standard of living.

It is therefore apparent that the permanence and progress of trade unions in this country, together with the maintenance of proper standards of work and living among wage-earners, depends upon a restriction of immigration. The labor unions and their leaders, to be consistent, should advocate a general reduction of the present volume of immigration. As a matter of fact, their position would be much stronger if they permitted the importation of skilled workmen, except in the case of strikes, and demanded a restriction in the numbers of unskilled workmen from Southern and Eastern Europe, who are now entering the country. The trained workman from Great Britain and Northern Europe is almost always an enthusiastic trade-unionist, and it is this class of immigrants who have been the leaders of organized labor in the United States, and who have fought its battles in the past.

A restrictive immigration policy would also be of advantage to manufacturers. They are now able to employ Southern and Eastern Europeans only because of the use of mechanical inventions and processes. They cannot hope to continue indefinitely to produce goods upon a standardized, quantitative basis. In order to retain the domestic trade, as well as to reach out for their share of the business in the world markets, the American manufacturer must turn out commodities of higher grade and finish. To do this he must have the skilled work-

men from Great Britain and Northern Europe. To secure this class of labor, however, the Southern and Eastern European must be debarted; for his employment is followed by wages and working conditions which are intolerable to British and Northern European wage-earners.

The matter is of peculiar significance to the South because of the lack of a proper labor supply in the face of an unprecedented industrial expansion. There are grave political and social reasons which should prevent the extensive employment of Southern and Eastern Europeans in the Southern States. To these should be added an economic consideration, which is of the greatest import—that the only method by which we can obtain the labor essential to the proper development and diversification of our manufactures and the cultivation of our vacant lands is to secure the passage of a law restricting the present alien influx.

AUTOMOBILE SELFISHNESS.

The possession of an automobile often seems to create in its owner a peculiar irresponsible selfishness. It makes him forget that mere pedestrians have any rights at all. It makes him careless, overbearing and almost inhuman. The result is such a general and vigorous complaint as is heard in Richmond to-day about the usurpation of Byrd Park and some principal streets by reckless motorists. This complaint is perfectly justified. A small per cent. of the population should not be permitted to interfere with the peace of mind and comfort of the vast bulk of the population that uses the parks and streets. If there are two motors in Richmond, and each is shared in by five persons, the total of 2,500 is setting its rights up against those of the 125,000 remaining. This is convincing proof that the Automobile Club and the police should get together and make the most stringent rules for the use of the parkways and boulevards. It is folly for the few to be permitted to carry danger, stench, dust and discomfort into the playgrounds of the many.

Of course, the automobile is a good thing. Its commercial uses have hardly begun. As a means of rapid transit in the country and town for those who actually need speed, it is very serviceable. As a means of recreation and health, used with sense by responsible people, it has a place. But as a dangerous toy, a fad, a sensation chase and a symbol for snobs, it is being sadly overdone. We fear Richmond is right at the crisis of its automobile silliness. Other places where the car has been used longer have gotten over the greenness. They are content to use machines practically for what they are fitted, without tearing round at the risk of far more important people's lives. But until the drivers of cars do reach the considerate, common-sense point of view, they had better be reminded by the heavy fine and the reputation of thoughtful and unselfish owners.

A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Forty-two constitutional amendments will be submitted to the people of Ohio in September for their ratification or rejection as a result of the labors of the Constitutional Convention, which adjourns this week after a session of almost three months. The propositions are so numerous that they emphasize the fact that the present day tendency is to frame codes rather than constitutions as the organic law of the State, for the State Constitution of the earlier days rivaled the Federal Constitution in brevity and in the omission of principles not of a permanent nature.

Many of the propositions put to the people by the convention are thoroughly constructive, and some of them are:

Empowering the Legislature to authorize the rendering of a verdict by not less than three-fourths of a jury in civil cases.

Providing that the Legislature may establish a board or commission for control of organization, business, issue and sale of stocks and securities of corporations.

Giving the Legislature authority to frame a law for the quick removal of all public officials upon complaint and hearing, thus avoiding the popular recall, and substituting a more efficient method thereof.

Giving authority for the issuance of public bonds to the amount of \$50,000 for the building and maintenance of good intercounty roads.

Giving women the right to hold offices in State institutions where women and children are cared for.

Providing that the Legislature may place all appointive State positions under civil service.

Removing the limit of \$12,000 for damages to be allowed in cases of accidental death.

Giving the State power to regulate billboard advertising.

Providing for a license of the liquor traffic and limiting the number of retail saloons, one to 500 population.

Making the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction appointive by the Governor instead of elective.

Giving the Legislature power to pass laws for the regulation of the use of expert witnesses in criminal trials.

Providing for the conservation of forests, water power and minerals. The proposal gives the Legislature power to exempt forest land from taxation and to regulate mining.

Abolishing prison contract labor and prohibiting the sale of prison-made goods unless they are so marked.

Authorizing the use of voting machines.

Giving home rule to municipalities.

Upholding the uniform rule of taxation and providing for a State tax on State and municipal bonds and for income, inheritance, franchise and production taxes.

Providing for the Torrens system of registering and regulating land titles.

Giving authority to the Legislature to establish a central State printing plant.

Establishing direct primary elections.

The selection of amendments here made is enough to indicate that constructive statesmanship was at work in the shaping of an organic law for the Ohio people. Law reform, regulation of crooked business, reform of offices and officials, good roads, civil service, liquor regulation, the short ballot, home rule for municipalities, conservation, mine regulation, abolition of prison contract labor, tax reform, the Torrens system, primaries—these things make an impressive showing for constructive effort. There are many things on the Ohio program that the General Assembly of Virginia could do itself, but it has either turned them down or refused to consider them. If the Democratic convention at Norfolk had performed its full duty to the people, it would have given the weight of its indorsement to some constructive State policies, but it avoided its manifest responsibility. Some one of these days Virginia will wake up with a start and with astonishment at what other States have done while she was asleep.

TURKISH BACK DOOR INVASION.

Again the chancelleries have been thrown into a flutter of apprehension over prospect of Italian invasion of the Turkish mainland, and consequent general upheaval in the Balkans. There was similar apprehension when Italy knocked at the door of the Dardanelles, it being feared that she intended to attempt pounding her way through the strait with a view to bombarding Constantinople and landing an army on European Turkish soil. However, it soon became apparent that the Dardanelles demonstration was designed simply to draw the Turkish fleet from cover and bring on a decisive naval engagement, if possible.

Failing in this, Italy turned her attention to picking up more islands in the Aegean, with the obvious intention of holding them as hostages, through which to force Turkey to the surrender of Tripoli. Since it was generally recognized that Italy had no purpose of permanent possession of these "insular fragments," the policy of occupying them was negatively encouraged, at least, as both wise and adroit, and the nerves of the chancelleries became steady once more.

But now there are signs and portents that in certain contingencies Italy may find her opportunity in invading Turkey through the back door. Although the Turkish authorities seek to minimize the situation in Albania, and official news regarding it is extremely difficult to obtain, from very reliable sources it is learned that the latest revolt there is threatening to assume more formidable proportions. Twelve thousand "thoroughly organized" Albanians are reported as already under arms, to say nothing of large numbers of detached bands that are awaiting the signal to join the organized and disciplined nucleus.

A part of the latter are camped near the frontier of Serbia, in which country the Albanian cause has thousands of sympathizers, and it is known that for some time Albanian emissaries have been sedulously at work among the Albanian exiles and their descendants in the north of Italy, who are also numbered by the thousands.

A most interesting fact connected with the revolt, which imparts to it a tinge of romance, and which is calculated to prove a potent influence in uniting the Albanians, is that it is led by Giorgio Castriota, a direct descendant of Scanderbeg, and as such claimant of the throne of Albania. Scanderbeg, who, in the fifteenth century, so successfully defended his throne against Amurat and Mahomet II., is the most picturesque and valiant figure in all Albanian history. He is far beyond all other men the hero of the country, and his name is with every Albanian an inspiration to strike for revenge, independence and the restoration of the ancient glory of the nation.

Castriota, in a recent interview given out at Brindisi, while on his way to Corfu, expressed the greatest confidence in the breaking out of a universal Albanian revolution, or rather in universal support of his movement, when his preparations were complete.

In that event it could not but be a tremendous temptation to Italy to throw an invading force across the Adriatic to co-operate with the revolutionists. Whether, however, it comes to actual invasion or not, it can be readily understood that the situation would seem to play most advantageously into the hands of Italy, if it does not in fact make for peace by causing the powers to press Turkey to treat for terms. What with the acknowledged critical situation in the Balkans, even the menace of invasion is something for chancelleries to reckon with to the end of concerted action to prevent possibly a general outbreak and war in the near East and the revision of the map of a large area of Southeastern Europe. But, in any event, and at all events, so far as Italy alone is concerned, she has the whip hand, is using it, and has been using it, and is in position to continue to use it with telling effect in driving the powers to "mediate" on her side.

"Who killed the fly? I'm the guy." Who said that woman ought not to wear a "rat"? A St. Louis female was hurried off a street car the other day, landing on her head, and only the rat in her hair saved her from a fractured skull.

The lack of a quorum at the meeting of the Common Council last night was most regrettable, but a full membership should be present Thursday night. Postponement of action on the Ferguson ordinance forbidding city employees from acting as election officers is to be deplored, but there is every reason to believe that the ordinance will pass Thursday night.

Good growing weather for the farmers means good growing weather for the city chap.

The eagle will scream at Chicago this month, and we must say there is every reason for his screaming.

Next to croaking a tourin' car walkin' is the best natural exercise. Tip-top Bud says he was flimflammed at the nickle-theater last night.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

In politics.
 They play a mighty peculiar game
 In politics.
 They're not particular where they aim
 In politics.
 They fool their neighbors and slam their friends;
 They think it needless to make amends.
 They stop at nothing to gain their ends
 In politics.

They yank the boodie and stow the pie
 In politics.
 And every one is out for himself
 In politics.
 They wade and wallow and splash in mire;
 They claim all virtues and play with fire;
 Of gambler's chances they never tire,
 In politics.

They make us believe that black is white,
 They even convince us that wrong is right.
 In politics.
 They hypnotize and they mesmerize,
 They rake the garbage and lift their eyes
 In midst of innocence to the skies,
 In politics.

According to Uncle Abner.
 There are plenty of ways to be unpopular without tryin' to get up a family picnic for about forty relatives who don't speak to one another.

There are lots of people who enjoy funerals, but no class enjoys them as much as the undertakers do.

Anse Frisby's automobile is 786654-582, and he goes so fast nobody can read it and can't remember it if they do. There is safety in numbers.

It is purty middlin' hard for a blind man to hook his wife up the back, but they say it is a cinch when compared to the efforts of a mouse to land at the right floor in an automatic electric elevator.

Hank Purdy is certainly one of our rising young business men. He rises at 4 o'clock every morning and hurries over to the creamery.

Elitha Higgins says the more you know for some people the more you know, last week he gave his wife 10 cents to buy some lace and this week she struck him for 45 cents to buy dress goods to go on it.

Anse Frisby bought Dr. Elliot's five feet of books about a year ago and has read almost five inches already.

There is only one thing as interesting as settin' around and listenin' to a lot of automobile enthusiasts, and that is settin' around and listenin' to a lot of people who don't like 'em because they haven't got the price to buy 'em.

Caught on the Fly.
 Perla is going to pay its ex-Shah \$100,000 a year to stay out of the country. Most persons would be willing to stay out of Perla for less than that.

America has imported some lemons from Scotland, but, of course, this should not be construed as any reflection upon Harry Lauder.

A New York paper says most of the snobs in that city get their money before they arrive there. Yes, and lose it shortly afterward.

Colonel Roosevelt says of his grandchild: "She's a regular baby." Then, of course, she is not an insurgent.

Hobson is again sure that war with Japan is coming soon. He should start eating those political baguettes.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson says overty is a disease. He might add also that it is very contagious just now.

A St. Louis minister has said in a sermon that women should be more slim. They will be if the high cost of living keeps up a few years longer.

So far no enemy of any presidential candidate has been mean enough to accuse him of using perfumery or smoking cigarettes.

There waits a niche in Fame's high hall
 For him the greatest of all,
 Who'll banish from Columbian shore
 The flies which vex the nation sore.

We'll welcome him with glad acclaim,
 Whichever his nation or his name.
 Till then it's up to you and I
 To swat the fly—to swat the fly.

Richmond.
 Ah, Memory, So Sad and Sweet
 Ah, memory, so sad and sweet, comes to my mind each day,
 To bring back to you, my love, and hours so far away,
 Ah, memory, so sad and sweet, comes to my mind each day,
 To bring me back to you, love, and hours so far away.

Roanoke.
 Is Our's a Land Where Folly Rules?
 Is our's a land where folly rules?
 Are we a band of branded sheep?
 Are slaves but commonwealths of fools?
 Must we in staid dumb silent keep?
 Or—is American
 The name of man
 With seed of Liberty sown deep?

Have we forgotten Washington?
 Monroe and Adams, Jackson, too?
 The gifted Thomas Jefferson?
 Have we and Grant and Cleveland true?
 Did ever grey
 Presume to say
 "Twas theirs the kingly act to do?"

Where are the boys of Seventy-six?
 Where are the men of Sixty-one?
 Where the freedom whose blood can't mix
 With latter-day Napoleon's?

Freedom's name
 Is daubed with shame
 If vain Pretender's light is won!
 WM. F. MANNIX.

Times-Dispatch Poets.
 Lo, he cometh in the Springtime,
 Also in the dead of Winter;
 And he smiles him to a safe place—
 To a garret, dark and lonely.
 There he dashes off a frenzied piece about a maiden heartless—
 Eke his inner fluctuations
 (Some take a shot at the Titanic),
 Or perchance his muse is moral,
 And he pens a thing didactic,
 Making all desire to kill him
 At the very earliest moment.
 Thus they scribble (a la Waltman)
 Rhymes to Genus are not needed,
 And a metre negligible—
 (For a Poet has his license),
 If the Editor shall save it
 From the fate of the waste basket,
 'Tis another T-D. poet
 Added on to the immortals.

Edward Fontaine.
 Hurt by Car.
 J. L. Johnston, thirty years old, or 1425 East Main Street, was slightly hurt and bruised yesterday morning about 10 o'clock by a car of the Virginia Railway and Power Company at Ninth and Main Streets. Johnston is said to have attempted to board the trolley before it had stopped, and being unsuccessful in his attempt to land upon the steps, lost his grip and fell to the pavement. He was taken into a nearby office and medical attention summoned.

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When Rothschild, Rockefeller, and Morgan are Forgotten

(Copyright, 1912, By John T. McCutcheon.)



A fact, by the way, which the guests never know.
 Though one of the waiters avows it.
 And now to the baker's—a fatal mistake.
 But like us poor mortals, he saw it too late.

Between the twin crusts of a nice covered pie
 There waits the remains of a once busy fly.
 Yet even at death he was blithe—even merry.
 So certain was he that he'd pass for a berry.

Yes, he's gone—twas his fate, and we'll soon see him no more,
 But his kinsmen are with us, a billion and more.

And on the summer's balmy breath
 They scatter wide the seeds of death.
 The fever victim's hopeless sigh
 Trace to its source the pesky fly.

St. Patrick once with priestly galle
 Banished the snake from Erin's isle.
 One that some modern saint would rise
 To rid us of the scourge of flies.

There waits a niche in Fame's high hall
 For him the greatest of all,
 Who'll banish from Columbian shore
 The flies which vex the nation sore.

We'll welcome him with glad acclaim,
 Whichever his nation or his name.
 Till then it's up to you and I
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SCHLEY'S WIDOW WILL HAVE \$150 PENSION

In Speech in Her Behalf, Senator Rayner Lauds and Defends Hero of Fattle of Santiago.

Washington, June 3.—Senator Rayner, of Maryland, told the Senate to-day that the famous order for what is known as the loop of the cruiser Brooklyn, in the battle of Santiago, given upon the spur of the moment and in the heat of battle, decided that conflict and saved the day for American arms. Senator Rayner sought to make this point clear in a speech accompanying an amendment which he offered to the pension appropriation bill so as to provide a pension of \$150 a month, instead of \$50 a month, to the widow of Admiral Schley.

Senator Rayner said that the government is now paying nearly \$200,000 a year in pensions. He said that Admiral Schley's widow was in dire need of the pension and lacked even the means of erecting a suitable memorial at the admiral's grave. Mr. Rayner exhortated critics of Admiral Schley, saying that a critic generally is a person without reputation, who expects to rise in public estimation upon the ruins of those whom he attempts to humiliate. He said that Admiral Schley was universally idolized, and that the admiral's enemies to point to a single instance where he ever wavered when duty summoned him. Senator Rayner said Schley was surrounded at Santiago by a band of heroic captains. Referring to the Brooklyn's loss as saving the day at Santiago, he said:

"Then came the Viracaya, and she made a desperate turn toward the Brooklyn and the Oregon, that were pursuing her, but as she did this she was struck by a shell from one of the vessels, and, hauling her colors down, she was beached at Acceraderos. The Colon, the last of the ships, was then making toward the Torquino River, the command of Clark, to try his thirteen-inch guns upon her, and with the combined fire of the Brooklyn and the Oregon upon the ship, and with no possible chance of escape, and with her human cargo doomed to certain death if the fighting continued, her commander ran his ship ashore at the mouth of the Torquino River, fired his leeward gun, lowered his flag, and the colors of Spain went down before the colors of the Union upon the Western Continent."

Not First Time He Disobeyed.
 "There is another charge that Schley had to meet that I desire briefly to refer to, and that was that in the conduct of the fleet along the Cuban coast he had disobeyed orders of the Navy Department. This was not the first time that Schley in his military career had found it necessary to disobey the orders of his superior officers. During the Civil War, at the siege of Port Hudson, when he was in charge of the mortar battery, the signal was raised upon Farragut's vessel to retreat. The quartermaster reported to Schley that it was impossible for him to see the signal. The order had been previously given to storm the batteries. This was the signal that Schley saw, and instead of retreating he leveled his guns against the fortifications. He was repulsed by Farragut, but afterwards the admiral called him into his private cabin and congratulated him."

"The time has passed when Secretaries of War or Secretaries of the Navy who have never perhaps observed any military tactics except a dress parade, and who could hardly tell the difference between a revenue cutter and a battleship, can fight battles with lead pencils and rulers and India rubber thousands of miles away from home."

And now all of these transactions have closed and Schley is gone. He delivered his country as great a victory as she ever gained upon the sea, and she accepted it with ingratitude. The greatest struggle he ever passed through was not amid the shot and shell at Santiago; it was when the shafts of malice and hatred were leveled at his breast; but he stood with head erect."

Agrees to \$150 a Month.
 The Senate agreed to a \$150 a month pension for Mrs. Schley after it had rejected by 42 to 10 an amendment proposed by the Pension Committee to cut the amount to \$50 a month. It was stated during the debate that Mrs.

Schley's present income was about \$120 a year.

A sharp colloquy occurred between Mr. Rayner and Senator Heyburn, of Idaho. Announcing he would vote for the pension for Mrs. Schley, Mr. Heyburn said that he did not mean to indicate that he had sided with Mr. Schley in the controversy following the naval battle off Santiago.

"No such issue is raised by this bill," said Mr. Rayner.

"You praise it in your remarks," reported Mr. Heyburn.

Mr. Rayner contended that such was not the case and added, "The Senator